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TO GENERAL SCOWCROFT

UNCLAS WH02350

TOSCO 041

PART ONE OF TWO

DECEMBER 2, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL SCOWCROFT
FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM
SUBJECT: MORNING NEWS SUMMARY

THE WASHINGTON POST

LOU CANNON REPORTS THAT PRESIDENT FORD'S VISIT TO CHINA OPENED ON A BLUNT NOTE LAST NIGHT AS VICE-PREMIER TENG HSIAO-PING WARNED THE U.S. AT THE WELCOMING BANQUET NOT TO TRUST THE SOVIET UNION. "RHETORIC ABOUT 'DETENTE' CANNOT COVER UP THE STARK REALITY OF THE GROWING DANGER OF WAR," TENG SAID DURING A TOAST TO MR. FORD. AT THE SAME TIME TENG INDICATED THAT CHINA VALUES THE RELATIONS "P" CREATED BY FORMER PRESIDENT NIXON'S TRIP TO CHINA AND "P" AFFIRMED BY MR. FORD. TENG SAID THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES HAD BEEN IMPROVING EVER SINCE NIXON / O PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI SIGNED A JOINT COMMUNIQUE IN SHANGHAI ON FEB, 27, 1972, RECOGNIZING DIFFERENCES BUT LOOKING FORWARD TO "NORMALIZATION" OF RELATIONS. (A-1)

ISRAEL SAID MONDAY THAT IT WOULD BOYCOTT THE UN DEBATE ON THE MIDDLE EAST NEXT MONTH BECAUSE THE SECURITY COUNCIL DECISION TO INVITE THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION TO PARTICIPATE THREATENS PROGRESS TOWARD PEACE. THE INVITATION TO THE PLO WAS LINKED TO SUNDAY NIGHT'S RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE MANDATE OF THE UN OLC ERVEN FORCE ON THE ISRAELI-OCCUPIED GOLAN HEIGHTS. (A-1)

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ACCORDING TO MARILYN BERGER, SECRETARY KISSINGER ORDERED THE AMERICAN VOTE IN FAVOR OF SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION THAT WILL BRING THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION INTO A UN MIDDLE EAST DEBATE DESPITE SOME ADVICE THAT A FIRMER U.S. STAND WOULD HAVE BROUGHT A RESULT MORE ACCEPTABLE TO THE ISRAELIS. (A-1)

TIMOTHY S. ROBINSON SAYS FORMER PRESIDENT NIXON PERSONALLY ORDERED THAT SECRET FILES ON FBI WIRETAPS OF 17 NEWSMEN AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS BE BROUGHT TO THE WHITE HOUSE IN 1971 FOR SAFEKEEPING, FORMER NIXON AS JOHN EHRLICHMAN HAS TESTIFIED. ACCORDING TO A COURT DEPOSITION BY EHRLICHMAN, NIXON ISSUED THE ORDER AFTER EHRLICHMAN REPORTED TO HIM THE FEARS OF ROBERT MARDIAN, AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL WHO HAD BEEN KEEPING THE FILES, THAT J. EDGAR HOOVER MIGHT ORDER FBI AGENTS TO BREAK INTO HIS JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OFFICE AND REMOVE THE FILES FOR POSSIBLE "BLACKMAIL" PURPOSES. EHRLICHMAN, ONE OF NUMEROUS HIGH LEVEL GOVERNMENT DEFENDANTS AGAINST WHOM THE SUIT WAS FILED, APPEARS IN HIS SWORN DEPOSITION TO PORTRAY ANOTHER DEFENDANT -- SECRETARY KISSINGER -- AS THE MOVING FORCE BEHIND THE SELECTION OF HALPERIN AND OTHERS AS TARGETS OF THE WIRETAPS. THROUGHOUT HIS TESTIMONY, EHRLICHMAN REFERS TO THE PROJECT AS "THE KISSINGER TAPS." (A-1)

ACCORDING TO DAVID OTTAWAY, THE ANGOLAN CIVIL WAR IS RAPIDLY BECOMING A "MINI-VIETNAM" FOR WHITE-RULED SOUTH AFRICA, AND IT HAS ALREADY CREATED A MAJOR DILEMMA FOR ITS HERETOFORE CAREFULLY ENGINEERED POLICY OF DETENTE TOWARD BLACK AFRICA, AS VIETNAM PROVED TO BE FOR THE U.S., ANGOLA HAS ALL THE MAKINGS OF A POLITICAL AND MILITARY QUAGMIRE FROM WHICH SOUTH AFRICA MAY FIND IT EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO EXTRICATE ITSELF. INDEED, IT MAY ALREADY BE TOO LATE, AND SOME POLITICAL COMMENTATORS ARE CALLING IT "A DESPERATELY DANGEROUS WAR" IN WHICH SOUTH AFRICA COULD EASILY FIND ITSELF TRAPPED ALONE. (A-1)

ACCORDING TO LOU CANNON, GEORGE BUSH WILL RETURN TO THE U.S. THIS SUNDAY. IN A BRIEF CONVERSATION AT THE PEKING AIRPORT WHERE HE WAS WAITING FOR THE PRESIDENT'S ARRIVAL MONDAY, BUSH DECLINED TO DISCUSS EITHER HIS CONFIRMATION PROSPECTS OR HIS POLITICAL PLANS. HE SAID IT WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE FOR HIM TO DO THIS BEFORE SENATE HEARINGS ON HIS NOMINATION. (A-10)

AFRICAN NATIONALIST LEADER JESHUA NKOMO AND RHODESIAN PRIME MINISTER IAN SMITH YESTERDAY SIGNED A PACT PLEDGING TO RESOLVE THE TEN-YEAR DEADLOCK BETWEEN BLACKS AND WHITES IN THE BREAKAWAY BRITISH COLONY. (A-11)

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THE LEAD EDITORIAL THIS MORNING SAYS IN PART THAT THE SIX-MONTH EXTENSION OF THE LIFE OF THE UN OBSERVER FORCE ON THE GOLAN HEIGHTS IS IMPORTANT CHIEFLY FOR THE COLLATERAL DEAL BY WHICH THE SECURITY COUNCIL FOR THE FIRST TIME IN EFFECT RECOGNIZED THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION. THE PLO'S PREVIOUS UN ACHIEVEMENTS HAVE ALL BEEN IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. THE PLO DOES NOT ACCEPT THE COUNCIL'S BASIC SETTLEMENT RESOLUTIONS (242 AND 338), WHICH IN ANY EVENT ALLUDE TO PALESTINIANS ONLY INDIRECTLY AS "THE REFUGEE PROBLEM." SYRIA, AS ITS PRICE FOR GRANTING EXTENSION OF THE OBSERVER FORCE, HAD DECIDED TO PASS UP ISRAEL'S OFFER OF A TOKEN, MILITARILY MEANINGLESS NEXT-STAGE DISENGAGEMENT ON THE GOLAN HEIGHTS AND INSTEAD TO DEMAND A PLO ROLE IN COUNCIL DEBATE. SO STARTING ON JAN. 12 THERE WILL BE A SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE "ON THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM, INCLUDING THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION." ITS VALUE WILL DEPEND ENTIRELY ON WHAT THE PLO AND ISRAEL CHOOSE TO MAKE OF IT. IF THE PLO COMES ROARING IN WAVING THE BANNERS OF ITS MOST UNRECONSTRUCTED ELEMENT, AND THE COUNCIL RESPONDS WITH AN EXTREMIST RESOLUTION, THEN WASHINGTON WILL HAVE TO VETO IT AND THE PLO WILL HAVE LOST A PRECIOUS OPPORTUNITY TO ADVANCE TOWARDS ITS LEGITIMATE GOALS. THE ONLY THING THAT WOULD THEN "HELP" THE PLO WOULD BE AN ISRAELI STANCE SO HARSH AND UNRESPONSIVE TOWARDS THOSE GOALS THAT ISRAEL WOULD LOSE SOME MEASURE OF ITS SUPPORT IN THE U.S. FOR IT IS SELF-EVIDENT THAT PALESTINIAN AND ISRAELI HARDLINERS NOURISH EACH OTHER. NO ONE CAN IGNORE THE IMMENSE POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES BOTH SIDES WOULD HAVE IN BEGINNING TO MOVE TOWARDS MORE MODERATE POSITIONS, BUT NO ONE CAN IGNORE, EITHER, THE COMPELLING NEED FOR COMPROMISE AND CHANGE. THAT IS WHY BOTH SIDES NEED THE RESPECTFUL UNDERSTANDING, AS WELL AS THE FIRM PRODDING, OF THEIR RESPECTIVE FRIENDS. (A-14)

RICHARD HARRIS SMITH WRITES THREE YEARS AFTER HIS RESIGNATION AS DIRECTOR OF CIA, ALLEN DULLES WAS ASKED BY A FRIEND IF HE WOULD HAVE BEEN WILLING TO "TAKE THE HEAT" DURING THE U.S. AND BAY OF PIGS AFFAIRS -- TO STATE PUBLICLY, AND FALSELY, THAT HE ALONE HAD BEEN ULTIMATELY RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY ERRORS OF SECRET SERVICE COMMITTED IN THOSE TIMES OF CRESS. "I'VE ALWAYS FELT," HE REPLIED, "THAT I SHOULD ASSUME FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANYTHING THE AGENCY HAS DONE. I SHOULD SHIELD AND PROTECT THE PRESIDENT IN ANY WAY I CAN." HERE HE ALIVE TODAY, DULLES MIGHT WELL STAND BEFORE THE CHURCH COMMITTEE AND SOLEMNLY SWEAR THAT HE HAD NEVER DISCUSSED CIA ASSASSINATION PLOTS WITH PRESIDENTS EISENHOWER AND KENNEDY. GIVEN HIS PERSONAL ETHIC AS A PUBLIC SERVANT IN SEVEN PRESIDENTIAL ADMINISTRATIONS, IT IS ENTIRELY CONCEIVABLE THAT HE WOULD PROTECT THE REPUTATIONS OF THOSE CHIEF EXECUTIVES,

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EVEN IF IT WERE PERSONALLY EMBARRASSING, OR TO THE DETRIMENT OF HIS BELOVED INTELLIGENCE SERVICE, BUT IT IS INCONCEIVABLE THAT DULLES WOULD HAVE HIDDEN SUCH SENSITIVE STATE SECRETS FROM THE PRESIDENT. "I AM UNDER HIS ORDERS," DULLES WOULD OFTEN SAY. "HE IS MY BOSS." DULLES MIGHT "CONSIDER ANYTHING" IF HE FELT IT WOULD PRESERVE AND PROTECT THE IMPERIAL POWER OF THE U.S. BUT HE WAS TOO POLITICALLY ASTUTE, TOO DEDICATED TO AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT, TO ALLOW HIS AGENCY TO BECOME A "ROGUE ELEPHANT," HATCHING PLOTS ABROAD WITHOUT THE SANCTION OF THE NATION'S HIGHEST ELECTED OFFICIAL. ALLEN DULLES LIKED TO REMIND HIS AIDES THAT HE AND THEY SERVED AT THE PLEASURE OF THE PRESIDENT. IF HIS CIA COMMITTED ACTS SEEN IN HINDSIGHT, AS MORALLY REPREENSIBLE THE FINAL RESPONSIBILITY MUST BE SOUGHT IN THE OVAL OFFICE. (A-15)

ACCORDING TO EVANS AND NOVAK, THE OVAL OFFICE PIPEDREAM THAT A SACKED JAMES SCHLESINGER WOULD DISAPPEAR INTO THE MISTS HAS BEEN EXPLODED BY FACT! SCHLESINGER IS PREPARED TO INFORM AND ADVISE RONALD REAGAN ON DEFENSE MATTERS. THIS DOES NOT MEAN THE FORMER DEFENSE SECRETARY, WHO WAS SUMMARILY FIRED BY PRESIDENT FORD, IS JOINING REAGAN'S PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN. SCHLESINGER IS WILLING AND EAGER TO TALK OVER DEFENSE MATTERS WITH A PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE (RIGHT ON DOWN TO GEORGE MCGOVERN!). BUT SEN. MCGOVERN HAS NOT ASKED HIS ADVICE. REAGAN HAS. SCHLESINGER'S WILLINGNESS TO ADVISE REAGAN SHOWS HOW BADLY HE HAS BEEN MISJUDGED BY THE WHITE HOUSE. AFTER THE NATIONAL NOTORIETY ACHIEVED BY HIS OUSTER IN THE HALLOWEEN MASSACRE, MR. FORD'S ADVISERS FEARED SCHLESINGER WOULD SOON RETREAT FROM THE HEADLINES TO A CUSHY CORPORATE JOB PROVIDING FINANCIAL SECURITY FOR HIS LARGE FAMILY AND MUZZLING HIM PERMANENTLY. "THEY DON'T KNOW THEIR MAN," A SCHLESINGER INTIMATE TOLD EVANS AND NOVAK. "HE FEELS VERY DEEPLY ABOUT THESE MATTERS, AND, IN A GENTLEMANLY WAY, IS GOING TO GIVE FORD HELL." (A-16)

PETER OSNOS REPORTS THAT SOVIET COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER BREZHNEV WAS NAMED YESTERDAY AS THE MAIN SPEAKER AT NEXT FEBRUARY'S 26TH PARTY CONGRESS. THE STRONGEST INDICATION YET THAT BREZHNEV WILL NOT STEP DOWN AT THE SESSION AS ONCE THOUGHT POSSIBLE, THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THOSE JUDGMENTS WAS IN THEIR IMPACT ON U.S. ASSESSMENTS OF SOVIET ACTIONS ON SUCH CRITICAL MATTERS AS THE STRATEGIC ARMS NEGOTIATIONS, THE MIDDLE EAST AND NOW ANGOLA. IT IS STILL POSSIBLE THAT BREZHNEV WILL BE ELEVATED TO SOME CEREMONIAL POSITION IN WHICH HE WOULD BE THE NOMINAL PARTY CHIEF WHILE OTHER, HEALTHIER PEOPLE TOOK OVER THE BURDEN OF HIS RESPONSIBILITIES. AND IT IS ALSO CONCEIVABLE THAT HE WOULD RETIRE SHORTLY AFTER THE CONGRESS. THIS VIEW IS SUPPORTED BY MANY DIPLO-

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MATS. (A-16)

THE NEW YORK TIMES

JAMES NAUGHTON REPORTS FROM PEKING THAT PRESIDENT FORD UNDER-TOOK A MISSION OF MODEST EXPECTATIONS YESTERDAY AFTER ENGAGING IN A FRANK EXCHANGE WITH CHINA'S DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, TENG HSIAO-PING, OVER WASHINGTON'S POLICY OF DETENTE WITH MOSCOW. BOTH SIDES SUGGESTED THAT NO MAJOR BREAKTHROUGHS IN RELATIONS WERE LIKELY AS A CONSEQUENCE OF THE TALKS. (1) ACCORDING TO BERNARD SHERTZMAN, THE U.S. SAID YESTERDAY THAT IT WOULD PARTICIPATE IN NEXT MONTH'S UNSC DEBATE ON THE MIDDLE EAST ALONG WITH THE PLO BUT DENIED THAT THIS MEANT AN END TO THE DIPLOMATIC BOYCOTT OF THE PALESTINIAN GROUP. THE U.S. WAS FACED WITH A DILEMMA WITH ISRAEL OVER ITS REFUSAL YESTERDAY TO VETO A SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION THAT SEEMED TO GIVE ADDED PRESTIGE TO THE PALESTINIANS IN EXCHANGE FOR EXTENSION OF THE GOLAN HEIGHTS PEACEKEEPING FORCE. BUT WASHINGTON SOUGHT TO ASSURE THE ISRAELIS THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO CHANGE IN THE POLICY TO WITHHOLD RECOGNITION UNTIL THE PALESTINIANS ACCEPTED ISRAEL'S EXISTENCE. (1)

A SPECIAL TO THE TIMES FROM TEL AVIV SAYS THAT AFTER A SPECIAL SIX-HOUR SESSION, THE ISRAEL CABINET DECIDED YESTERDAY TO BOYCOTT NEXT MONTH'S DEBATE ON THE MIDDLE EAST IN THE UNSC AND APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW SETTLEMENTS ON THE OCCUPIED GOLAN HEIGHTS. ISRAEL ACCEPTED THE SIX-MONTH RENEWAL OF THE PEACEKEEPING FORCE YESTERDAY BUT DENOUNCED THE COUNCIL'S LINKING OF THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE WITH THE MIDDLE EAST DEBATE, TERMING IT A SURRENDER TO SYRIAN PRESSURE. (1)

HENRY GINIGER REVEALS THAT TORCUATO FERNANDEZ MIRANDA, AN EXTREME RIGHTIST WHO ONCE TUTORED KING JUAN CARLOS I IN POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY, IS EXPECTED TO BECOME THE NEXT SPEAKER OF PARLIAMENT AND CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF THE REALM, THE COUNTRY'S HIGHEST CONSULTATIVE BODY. (3)

PAUL HOFMANN WRITES THAT SYRIA SAID YESTERDAY THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL HAD MADE A "HISTORIC AFFIRMATION" BY RECOGNIZING THE RIGHT OF THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION TO SPEAK FOR THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. SYRIA'S CHIEF DELEGATE, MOUAFFAK EL-MALLAF, ANNOUNCED THE INTRODUCTION OF A DRAFT RESOLUTION THAT WOULD CALL ON THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO CONSIDER A "TOTAL SOLUTION" TO THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM, INCLUDING RESTORATION OF THE "INALIENABLE RIGHTS" OF THE PALESTINIANS WHEN IT MEETS ON JAN. 12 TO TAKE UP THE ISSUE. (5)

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REUTERS REPORTS THAT PRIME MINISTER IAN SMITH AND THE NATIONALIST LEADER JOSHUA NKOMO SIGNED AN AGREEMENT YESTERDAY PLEDGING TO NEGOTIATE A SETTLEMENT OF THE RHODESIAN CONSTITUTIONAL PROBLEM. (8)

ACCORDING TO REUTERS, THE NEUTRALIST PRIME MINISTER OF LAOS PRINCE SOUVANNA PHOUMA, WAS REPORTED TO HAVE LEFT VIENTIANE IN SEMIRETIREMENT AS MORE RALLIES WERE HELD DEMANDING THE END OF THE COALITION CABINET IN PREPARATION FOR FULL RULE BY THE COMMUNIST-LED PATHET LAO. PROMINENT LAOTIANS HAVE FLED TO NEIGHBORING THAILAND. (9)

ALVIN SHUSTER REPORTS FROM ROME THAT THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE NINE COMMON MARKET COUNTRIES STRUGGLED YESTERDAY WITH WAYS TO OVERCOME BRITISH DEMANDS FOR SPECIAL TREATMENT AT THE CONFERENCE OF INDUSTRIALIZED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES SCHEDULED FOR NEXT MONTH. THE OUTCOME OF THE DISCUSSIONS WILL DETERMINE WHETHER THE SO-CALLED "NORTH-SOUTH" CONFERENCE WILL GO AHEAD NEXT MONTH OR FACE A DELAY. (11)

A TIMES EDITORIAL DISCUSSES THE EFFECTS OF THE RECENT UN SECURITY COUNCIL VOTE ON UNDOF AND CONCLUDES THAT A SUBTLE SHIFT IS TAKING PLACE IN THE FOCUS OF ARAB-ISRAELI PEACEMAKING EFFORTS: THE ISSUE OF THE PALESTINIAN ARAB POLITICAL FUTURE HAS FINALLY BEEN THRUST INTO THE MIDDLE OF THE DIPLOMATIC PROCESS. THE SECURITY COUNCIL HAS JUST SIGNALLED ITS INTENTION TO HEAR FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION AT ITS NEXT MEETING ON THE MIDDLE EAST JANUARY 12. IF SUCH AN INVITATION WERE TO BE HERALDED AS FORMAL RECOGNITION OF THE PLO AS THE "SOLE LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE," WHICH IS THE POSITION OF THE LEADING ARAB STATES, THEN THE U.S. AND ISRAEL WOULD CERTAINLY BE RIGHT TO RESIST IT. AT THE SAME TIME, ISRAEL'S ANNOUNCED INTENTION TO BOYCOTT THE SECURITY COUNCIL'S DEBATE IF THE PLO PARTICIPATES IN ANY CAPACITY IS SHORT-SIGHTED AND CONTRARY TO ISRAEL'S LONGER-TERM INTERESTS IN ESTABLISHING A FRAMEWORK FOR CONCILIATION. THE POLITICS OF THE PALESTINIAN MOVEMENT -- INCLUDING WITHIN THE PLO ITSELF -- ARE SO FRAGILE AND FRAGMENTED THAT, AT THE FIRST SIGN OF BEING TAKEN SERIOUSLY, A WIDE RANGE OF INTERESTS AND SETTLEMENT PROPOSALS WOULD LIKELY COME INTO THE OPEN. ENTERING UPON EXCHANGES OF VIEWS, EVEN UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL, NEED NOT IMPLY FORMAL RECOGNITION OR ANY OTHER CLAIMS. SUCH TOPICS WOULD BE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE DISCUSSION TO BE PURSUED. TO OPEN TALKS IS NO GUARANTEE OF SUCCESS AT THE OUTCOME; BUT REFUSAL TO OPEN TALKS IS GUARANTEE OF FAILURE FROM THE START. (38)

ROBERT KLEIMAN, A MEMBER OF THE EDITORIAL BOARD OF THE TIMES

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COMMENTS ON THE POLITICAL POWER OF THE ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY AND NOTES THAT INCREASINGLY, THERE IS AN AIR OF INEVITABILITY ABOUT COMMUNIST PROPOSALS FOR PARTICIPATION IN A COALITION GOVERNMENT. SOME NONCOMMUNISTS APPEAR TO BE LEANING WITH THE WIND. OTHERS SPEAK IN FAVOR OF TAKING THE RISKS AS THE ONLY AVAILABLE ALTERNATIVE TO THE INCOMPETENCE, FACTIONALISM, CORRUPTION AND CONFUSION VISITED UPON THE COUNTRY BY THE FAILING CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS. A MORE IMPORTANT COMMENT, WHICH HAS IMPRESSED MANY ITALIANS, IS THAT "THE COMMUNISTS HERE HAVE LEARNED THE CHILEAN LESSON." "THE DECIDED," THE COMMUNIST EDITOR SAID "THAT A 51 PERCENT MAJORITY ACHIEVED BY SPLITTING THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS WOULD, AS IN CHILE, SEND THE CATHOLIC MASSES INTO THE ARMS OF REACTION. THE HISTORIC COMPROMISE SECRETARY GENERAL BERLINGUER PROPOSED THEN WAS TO FORM A STABLE MAJORITY OF AS MUCH AS 70 PERCENT THROUGH AN ALLIANCE OF THE TWO BIG ITALIAN PARTIES, THE COMMUNISTS AND THE WHOLE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY." IT IS EVEN SUGGESTED THAT DEMOCRATIC COMMUNISM IN ITALY AND OTHER WEST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES MIGHT SPLIT THE COMMUNIST WORLD MORE PROFOUNDLY THAN TITOISM AND UNDERMINE AUTHORITARIANISM IN EAST EUROPE. THIS SIREN SONG, WHICH TEMPTS ITALIANS, TROUBLES ITALY'S NATO AND COMMON MARKET PARTNERS. THEY FIND IT HARD TO ENVISAGE COMMUNIST PARTICIPATION IN A MILITARY ALLIANCE DIRECTED AGAINST THE USSR OR EVEN IN A EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY THAT ASPIRES TO ULTIMATE POLITICAL AND DEFENSE UNION. SECRETARY KISSINGER HAS BEEN URGING THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS TO STOP SQUABBLING, TO REVITALIZE THEIR PARTY AND TO REGAIN THE COOPERATION OF THE SOCIALISTS AND THEIR OTHER FORMER COALITION PARTNERS. BUT IF ITALY'S PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS IN 1977 CONFIRM LAST JUNE'S RESULTS, COMMUNIST ACCESSION TO POWER WILL BE HARD TO HALT. (30)

GENERAL GOODPASTER'S LETTER TO THE EDITOR RE PRESIDENT EISENHOWER AND CIA PLOTS WILL BE SENT SEPARATELY.

THE BALTIMORE SUN

NORTH VIETNAM'S PREMIER PHAM VAN DONG AND OTHER OFFICIALS EXPECT NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. "SOON" AND SAY WASHINGTON HAS FORCED THE SPEED-UP OF REUNIFICATION OF THE TWO VIETNAMS, AN AMERICAN JUST RETURNED FROM HANOI SAID YESTERDAY. (2)

ACCORDING TO GILBERT LENTHWAITE, BRITIAN YESTERDAY FOUND ITSELF FACING SOLID OPPOSITION FROM ITS EUROPEAN PARTNERS TO ITS DEMAND FOR A SEPARATE SEAT AT THIS MONTH'S NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE ON ECONOMICS AND ENERGY IN PARIS. LEADERS OF FRANCE AND WEST GERMANY MET PRIVATELY ON THE SIDELINES

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OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNIST SUMMIT MEETING IN ROME AND AGREED TO LEAD THE CHALLENGE TO BRITAIN'S STANCE. THE ISSUE WAS SIDESTEPED IN YESTERDAY'S OPENING SESSION, BUT IT BECAME CLEAR THAT THE EEC'S EIGHT OTHER MEMBERS WERE ADAMANT IN THEIR REFUSAL TO ALLOW BRITAIN ITS OWN SEAT IN THE CONFERENCE OF INDUSTRIAL, DEVELOPING AND OIL-PRODUCING NATIONS DECEMBER 10. (A-4)

THE STATE DEPARTMENT YESTERDAY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT U.S. WEAPONS MIGHT BE GOING INTO ANGOLA FROM NEIGHBORING ZAIRE, BUT A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN INSISTED THE U.S. WAS NOT DIRECTLY ASSISTING ANY SIDE IN THE ANGOLAN CIVIL WAR. (A-5)

A SUN EDITORIAL SAYS THE SENATE PRUDENTLY RESTRAINED THE PENTAGON BY VOTING TO DELAY CONSTRUCTION OF A NAVAL BASE AT THE INDIAN OCEAN ISLAND OF DIEGO GARCIA UNTIL NEXT APRIL. NOW THAT PRESIDENT FORD HAS ACCEPTED THIS PROVISION, THE ADMINISTRATION WILL BE UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO SEEK AN AGREEMENT WITH THE SOVIET UNION THAT WOULD AVOID A SUPER-POWER ARMS RACE IN THAT PART OF THE WORLD. THE RUSSIANS HAVE BEEN PROVOCATIVE BY ESTABLISHING NAVAL INSTALLATIONS IN SOMALIA THAT HAVE OBVIOUS STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS FOR THE MOVEMENT OF SHIPS FROM THE PERSIAN GULF TO THE INDIAN OCEAN. BUT BEFORE THE U.S. RESPONDS IN KIND, WE SHOULD TRY AGAIN TO MAKE THESE WATERS AN "OCEAN OF PEACE." (A-14)
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TO GENERAL SCOWCROFT

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FINAL OF TWO PARTS

JAMES KILPATRICK BELIEVES TIME IS RUNNING OUT IN AFRICA. IN ANOTHER FEW WEEKS, UNLESS THE U.S. PROVIDES DECISIVE LEADERSHIP FOR THE WESTERN WORLD, ANGOLA MAY BE LOST TO COMMUNIST DOMINATION. THE SITUATION IS BLEAK, BUT IT IS NOT BEYOND REDEMPTION. ONE OF THE MELANCHOLY FACTORS IS THAT FEW AMERICANS KNOW MUCH OR CARE GREATLY ABOUT ANGOLA. IT IS A MADDENING SPECTACLE TO WATCH THIS DISINTEGRATION OF ANGOLA. IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE FOR THE CIA TO AVERT THIS CALAMITY -- BUT THE CIA HAS BEEN CRIPPLED BY A MORALIZING SENATE. IF DETENTE AND DOMESTIC POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS DID NOT WEIGH SO HEAVILY, THE PRESIDENT MIGHT DO WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE, BUT THE PRESIDENT IS THINKING POLITICALLY NOW. IF THE U.S. WERE TO TAKE THE LEAD IN RECOGNIZING A GOVERNMENT AT NOVA LIOBOA, LED BY MR. ROBERTO, THE COMMUNIST MPLA MIGHT YET BE CONTAINED AND DEFEATED. NEIGHBORING ZAIRE AND ZAMBIA, STRUGGLING FOR ECONOMIC SURVIVAL, DOUBTLESS WOULD WELCOME SUCH A MOVE. SOUTH AFRICA WOULD BE IN A POSITION TO LEND DISCREET ASSISTANCE. INSTEAD OF DECISIVE ACTION, WE GET MURMURING NOISES. IN HIS SPEECH OF NOVEMBER 24 IN DETROIT, SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER HAD ONLY THIS TO SAY: "WE CANNOT IGNORE THE SUBSTANTIAL SOVIET BUILDUP OF WEAPONS IN ANGOLA, WHICH HAS INTRODUCED GREAT POWER RIVALRY INTO AFRICA FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 15 YEARS. THE U.S. CANNOT BE INDIFFERENT WHILE AN OUTSIDE POWER EMBARKS UPON AN INTERVENTIONIST POLICY SO DISTANT FROM ITS HOMELAND AND SO REMOVED FROM TRADITIONAL RUSSIAN INTERESTS. CANNOT IGNORE CANNOT BE INDIFFERENT? FROM ALL SURFACE INDICATIONS, THIS IS PRECISELY WHAT OUR FLABBY POLICY HAS BEEN. THE SOVIET UNION, TOSSEING ITS HELSINKI PLEDGES TO THE WINDS, IS MADE OF STERNER STUFF. BEHIND THE KREMLIN'S

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WALLS, DETENTE IS NOT THE BE-ALL AND THE END-ALL. (A-68)
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